

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application. This listing has not been renumbered. Entry of the amendments to the claims is respectfully requested.

What is claimed is:

Claims 1-28 are canceled.

29. (previously presented) An isolated DNA comprising a polynucleotide selected from the group consisting of:

- a) nucleotides 120-884 of SEQ ID NO:7;
- b) nucleotides 189-884 of SEQ ID NO:7; and
- c) a polynucleotide that is degenerate as a result of the genetic code to a nucleotide sequence of (a) or (b).

30. (currently amended) An isolated DNA encoding a polypeptide selected from the group of consisting of polypeptides comprising amino acids 1-163 of SEQ ID NO:8 and polypeptides comprising a fragment of amino acids 1-163 of SEQ ID NO:8, the fragment being capable of binding a 4-1BB-L.

31. (previously presented) An isolated DNA of claim 30, wherein said DNA additionally encodes an antibody Fc polypeptide fused to the C-terminus of said polypeptide.

32. (previously presented) A vector comprising a DNA according to claim 29.

33. (previously presented) A vector comprising a DNA according to claim 30.

34. (previously presented) A vector comprising a DNA according to claim 31.

35. (currently amended) A process for preparing a 4-1BB polypeptide, comprising culturing a host cell comprising a vector according to claim 32 under conditions that promote expression of the 4-1BB polypeptide.

36. (currently amended) A process for preparing a soluble 4-1BB polypeptide, comprising culturing a host cell comprising a vector according to claim 33 under conditions that promote expression of the soluble 4-1BB polypeptide.

37. (currently amended) A process for preparing a fusion protein comprising an antibody Fc polypeptide fused to the C-terminus of a soluble 4-1BB polypeptide, comprising culturing a host cell comprising a vector according to claim 34 under conditions that promote expression of the fusion protein.

38. (previously presented) A purified polypeptide comprising the N-terminal amino acid sequence Leu-Gln-Asp-Pro-Cys-Ser-Asn-Cys-Pro-Ala-Gly-Thr- (amino acid residues 1-12 of SEQ ID NO:8), the polypeptide being capable of binding 4-1BB-L.

39. (previously presented) A purified polypeptide comprising an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of amino acids 1-232 of SEQ ID NO:8 and amino acids 1-163 of SEQ ID NO:8.

40. (previously presented) A purified polypeptide comprising an amino acid sequence that is identical to a sequence selected from the group consisting of amino acids 1-232 of SEQ ID NO:8 and amino acids 1-163 of SEQ ID NO:8, except for conservative amino acid substitution(s).

41. (currently amended) A purified polypeptide selected from the group consisting of polypeptides comprising amino acids 1-163 of SEQ ID NO:8 and polypeptides comprising a fragment of amino acids 1-163 of SEQ ID NO:8, the fragment being capable of binding a 4-1BB-L.

42.(previously presented) A purified polypeptide of claim 41, additionally comprising an antibody Fc polypeptide fused to the C-terminus of said polypeptide.

43.(currently amended) A dimer comprising two polypeptides of claim 41 ~~42~~, joined via disulfide bonds between the ~~antibody~~ Fc polypeptides fused to said polypeptides.

44. (previously presented) A composition comprising a polypeptide of claim 41 in admixture with a diluent, carrier, or excipient.

45.-46 (canceled).

47. (previously presented) An isolated polynucleic acid comprising a sequence of at least about 30 nucleotides of a DNA according to claim 29 or its DNA or RNA complement.

48. (previously presented) A purified polypeptide comprising amino acids 1-232 of SEQ ID NO: 8.

49. (previously presented) A purified polypeptide comprising amino acids 1-163 of SEQ ID NO: 8.